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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: RAYBORN, Jerry  
Serial No.: 10/667,319  
Filed: September 23, 2003  
Title: WATER-BASED DRILLING FLUID ADDITIVE  
CONTAINING GRAPHITE AND CARRIER  
Examiner: Tucker, Philip Art Unit: 1712  
Docket: P-0038US

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**CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING**

Date of Deposit: September 8, 2004

I hereby certify that the following attached paper (s) and/or fee

- (1) Amendment;
- (2) A Certificate of First Class Mailing; and
- (3) A self-addressed stamped postcard, return which is requested to acknowledge receipt of the enclosed documents

Are being deposited in the United States Postal Service First Class Mail on the date indicated above and is addressed to the "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450".

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 8, 2004

  
Dan M. de la Rosa

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

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Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

**AMENDMENT**

In view of the issuance of the parent and related applications, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (currently amended) A drilling fluid additive comprising: graphite, copolymer beads and at least one carrier, said carrier is selected from a group consisting of oils, esters, glycols, cellulose, olefins and mixtures thereof.
2. (cancelled) The drilling fluid additive of Claim 1 further comprising copolymer beads.
3. (currently amended) The drilling fluid additive of Claim 1 wherein said ~~carrier is~~ oils are selected from a group consisting of ~~oils,~~ hydrocarbon oils, vegetable oils, mineral oils, paraffin oils, synthetic oils, diesel oils, corn oil, peanut oil, ~~esters, glycols, cellulose,~~ ~~olefins~~ and mixtures thereof.